United Nations S/2013/94

Security Council

Distr.: General
14 February 2013

Original: English

Letter dated 14 February 2013 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

Further to my report (S/2013/69), submitted to the Security Council on 31 January 2013, and to subsequent consultations between the United Nations and the African Union in respect of Somalia, I have the honour to transmit herewith the attached joint statement, which I have signed together with Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Chairperson of the African Union Commission (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring the statement to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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Annex

Joint statement

14 February 2013

We, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, refer to the report of the Secretary-General (S/2013/69), submitted to the Security Council on 31 January 2013, in which the Council was presented with the outcome of the United Nations strategic review of its efforts in Somalia. The outcome of the African Union's parallel strategic review of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) will soon be discussed by the African Union Peace and Security Council and subsequently shared with the United Nations Security Council. We share the following views on these two reviews with the Security Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council, on the understanding that further consultations are necessary to reach a shared vision on the way forward.

On the basis of the two reviews, the United Nations Secretariat and the African Union Commission have initiated further consultations (including during the Joint Task Force held on the margins of the recently concluded Summit of the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government) to agree on a joint approach for an enhanced international engagement in Somalia. This letter outlines areas of convergence between the African Union and United Nations approaches in Somalia on the basis of those consultations, and provides an update on our plans to enhance the United Nations-African Union strategic partnership in the country.

1. Requirement for an enhanced international presence in Somalia

The African Union and the United Nations share a common analysis of the situation in Somalia, recognizing both the opportunities and the risks of the current phase, and the great demands on the new Somali authorities to carry forward the process of stabilization, peacebuilding and statebuilding. We are jointly highlighting to the Council the critical need, also highlighted by the Somali authorities, for an expanded international presence to support peacebuilding in Somalia for the coming years, while ensuring the advancement of the ongoing efforts to stabilize security.

While military support to the Government of Somalia continues to be critical, security operations cannot succeed in isolation. Grounded in respect for the principle of national ownership, we are of the joint view that an international civilian presence should assist the Somali authorities in advancing the process of national reconciliation, finalization of the constitution and preparation for elections by 2016.

It should also provide coherent strategic and policy advice to the Government on stabilization, peacebuilding and statebuilding, and support substantial, long-term efforts to build the capacity of the Somali people and Somali institutions, including in the security sector, justice, governance and public administration, and basic service delivery. It should ensure adequate monitoring and reporting of the human rights situation in Somalia, and assist the Government in building the capacity of its human rights institutions. In respect of all these functions, it should assist the authorities in coordinating international support.

We take note of the intention of the Security Council, in its resolution 1863 (2009), to establish a United Nations peacekeeping operation for Somalia, and its adoption of the incremental approach recommended in the report of the Secretary-General of 16 April 2009 (S/2009/210). In this regard, we recall that the ultimate security objective in Somalia remains to smoothly hand over security responsibilities to the Somali authorities, which requires enhanced efforts to develop capable Somalia security institutions in the coming years. In the interim, our joint view remains that the African Union still has a comparative advantage over the United Nations as a provider of military support to the Somali National Security Forces, while combat operations continue. The option of a United Nations peacekeeping operation should, consequently, be revisited as conventional combat operations against Al-Shabaab end, in consultation with the Somali authorities at that time. If that were to be the course of action, there would be a need to significantly enhance its capacity compared to that currently available to AMISOM, including by providing the necessary enablers and force multipliers, while taking concrete steps to empower the Somali defence and security sector.

Meanwhile, on the urgent need for civilian support to the Government, the United Nations Secretariat, in consultation with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, has proposed the creation of a United Nations assistance mission as described in paragraphs 72 to 76 of the report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council of 31 January 2013 (S/2013/69). The African Union, on the basis of its review of AMISOM, has proposed an expanded Security Council mandate and United Nations support for AMISOM. We look forward to the guidance of the Security Council on these recommendations, to enable our further planning to proceed on the basis of clear understanding of the Council's expectations.

Based on the Council's guidance, the United Nations and the African Union will also continue to advance our contingency planning for an eventual peacekeeping operation in Somalia.

2. Financing for AMISOM

As the Somali Government is not yet in a position to guarantee security throughout its territory, we jointly recognize the unique and essential role being played by AMISOM in supporting the Somali National Security Forces to consolidate security in the country. The continuation of these efforts is indispensable to create the conditions for further peacebuilding, including those activities that are planned by international partners in support of Somali efforts.

The present United Nations support package for AMISOM provides sustainable funding for the force's logistical and related requirements, representing approximately 70 per cent of the total requirements of AMISOM. However, there remains an outstanding requirement for financial support. We wish, in particular, to draw attention to the fact that the present resolutions of the Security Council, including resolution 2010 (2011), explicitly exclude the provision of direct financial assistance from the United Nations to the African Union, with the exception of reimbursement of contingent-owned equipment authorized under resolution 2036 (2012). We therefore strongly encourage Member States to do their utmost to ensure predictable and sustainable funding for AMISOM, particularly with regard to the reimbursement of allowances for AMISOM uniformed personnel, to cover the duration of its mandate should it be extended beyond 7 March 2013.

Noting that transition to a peacekeeping operation is not recommended in the immediate term, we note the following options which offer possibilities for allowing the African Union to meet the financial obligations incurred in respect of AMISOM, with regard to the allowances for uniformed personnel: (i) continuation of the present arrangements, whereby Member States and regional organizations provide direct financial assistance to the African Union, possibly on the basis of agreed burden-sharing; (ii) exceptional authorization for the United Nations to reimburse AMISOM, in accordance with United Nations scale and standards, for costs incurred in respect of Security Council-mandated activities, this second option being the one that ensures greater predictability and financial stability.

We urge the Council to give urgent consideration to these options and to provide guidance as to its intent, so that AMISOM operations may continue.

3. Coherence of the African Union and the United Nations efforts in Somalia

We take note of a number of areas in which the efforts of the African Union and the United Nations in Somalia currently overlap, and where greater efforts should be made to realize synergies and avoid duplication by our respective missions. In order to do this, we will be guided by the expectations of our respective organizations, as well as the preferred configuration of our presences, as noted in section 1 above.

Following such guidance from the Security Council, we will take advantage of the forthcoming Technical Assessment Mission to be deployed by the United Nations to explore further the scope for more effective United Nations-African Union collaboration on the basis of comparative advantage and a clear division of labour, and in line with the priorities of the Federal Government of Somalia. The United Nations and the African Union will collaborate closely in the development of recommendations in this regard, which will include strong mechanisms for strategic, operational and tactical coordination, and subject to further consultation, could include the development of co-location, joint units or joint programmes. These would be presented in the subsequent report of the Secretary-General.

We look forward to the consideration of the Security Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council of the joint views presented in this letter during its deliberations on our future efforts to support sustainable peace in Somalia.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations

(*Signed*) Nkosazana **Dlamini-Zuma**
Chairperson
African Union Commission

United Nations A/67/742–S/2013/95

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
20 February 2013

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-seventh session
Agenda items 9, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39, 43, 47, 53, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 73, 80, 83, 85, 90, 94, 97, 104, 105, 112, 113, 121, 123, 125, 128

Report of the Economic and Social Council

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Culture of peace

Macroeconomic policy questions

Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference

Sustainable development

Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Globalization and interdependence

Groups of countries in special situations

Eradication of poverty and other development issues

Operational activities for development

Agriculture development and food security

Social development

Advancement of women

Report of the Security Council

Prevention of armed conflict

The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

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Question of Palestine

The situation in Afghanistan

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Question of Cyprus

Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security

Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support

Report of the Human Rights Council

Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Right of peoples to self-determination

Promotion and protection of human rights

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

Report of the International Court of Justice

Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts

The rule of law at the national and international levels

Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

General and complete disarmament

The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

International drug control

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Admission of new Members to the United Nations

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations

Global health and foreign policy

International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

Letter dated 11 February 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the pleasure to write to you today, in Egypt's capacity as the Chair of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Summit, enclosing herewith the text of the outcome documents of the twelfth session of the OIC Summit, held in Cairo from 2 to 7 February 2013, which are as follows:

- Final communiqué (see annex I)
- Resolution on Palestine (see annex II)
- Declaration in Mali (see annex III)

In this regard, I kindly request that the present letter and the annexes thereto be circulated as a document of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 9, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39, 43, 47, 53, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 73, 80, 83, 85, 90, 94, 97, 104, 105, 112, 113, 121, 123, 125 and 128, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mootaz Ahmadein **Khalil**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex I to the letter dated 11 February 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic, English and French]

CAIRO FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE TWELFTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE (SESSION OF NEW CHALLENGES AND EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES) CAIRO-ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT (6-7 FEBRUARY 2013) 25-26 RABI' AL-AWWAL 1434H

In the Name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate

1- We, the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, met in Cairo, Egypt, on 6 and 7 February 2013, 25-26 Rabi' Al-Awwal 1434H for the Twelfth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference upon the kind invitation of H.E Dr. Mohamed Morsy, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, to jointly review the international situation in the political, economic and social fields with the aim of analyzing the impact on the Muslim Ummah under the overall theme "The Muslim World: New Challenges & Expanding Opportunities".

2- We are witnessing positive developments in a number of countries; however, new challenges may have adverse effects if not addressed. Some of these effects are the result of current trends in the world at large and some have regional basis. The full implications of these trends remain uncertain, but there is a growing realization that greater attention needs to be focused on new challenges facing the Muslim World with a view to maximizing benefits and minimizing risks.

3- We reviewed the reports and recommendations submitted to us, and discussed a number of important issues on the agenda relating to the circumstances that the Muslim World is experiencing and which require wise and careful consideration so that they can be addressed and remedied in a manner conducive to the promotion of Islamic solidarity.

We declare the following:

In the Political Field

Palestine

4- We reaffirm the centrality of the cause of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif to the Muslim Ummah as a whole and the need for the latter to use all its powers and legitimate ways and means to defend the inviolability of the Islamic and Christian holy places. We reiterate our strong condemnation of Israel, the occupying power, for its ongoing and escalating aggression against the Islamic and Christian holy places in Al-Quds Al-Sharif. We warn against these aggressions, the Judaisation of Al-Quds by erasing its Arab and Islamic identity and flouting the position of the city of Al-Quds for

the Muslim Ummah. We reaffirm that, according to the relevant international resolutions, Al-Quds Al-Sharif is an indivisible part of the State of Palestine's territory occupied by Israel in 1967.

5- We welcome the UN General Assembly's adoption of resolution 19/67 on 29 November 2012 upgrading the status of Palestine in the United Nations to Observer State. We commend the support given to the resolution by the majority of world States as an important step toward readdressing the historical injustice inflicted upon the Palestinian people for many decades, which is likely to shore up the efforts to incarnate the sovereignty of the State of Palestine over the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and all the Islamic and Christian holy places. Thereupon, the Conference condemned Israel, the occupying power, for its response of unbridled hostility, aggression and intransigence to this legitimate, peaceful, political and multi-laterally adopted resolution.

6- We condemn the barbaric Israeli attack on the Gaza Strip in November 2012 and the occupying power's continuation to inflict collective punishment on the Palestinian people, particularly the illegal and inhumane blockade imposed on the Gaza Strip, which has a serious impact on the humanitarian situation and living conditions of its population. We demand that Israel stops immediately the illegal collective punishment of the Palestinian people and to lift fully the blockade imposed on the Gaza Strip. We call for an urgent action to move ahead in the reconstruction of the Gaza Strip after the colossal damage caused by the abhorrent Israeli military aggression of December 2008 and January 2009, as well as the aggression of November 2012. In this context, we demand once again that serious follow-up measures be taken to ensure accountability and justice for the crimes perpetrated by Israel, the occupying power, against the unarmed Palestinian civilians in the Gaza Strip and provide protection for the Palestinian people.

7- We emphasize that just, peaceful and comprehensive settlement of the conflict in the Middle East must be based on the provisions of the international law and the UN Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 1397 (2002), 1515 (2003), 1850 (2009) and relevant UN General Assembly Resolutions including 19/67 (2012), as well as on the terms of reference of the Madrid Peace Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Arab Summit in Beirut on 28 March 2002 and the Quartet's Roadmap, so as to achieve the two-state solution, to enable the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable rights, including their right to self-determination in their independent and sovereign Palestinian State on the basis of pre-1967 border with Al-Quds Al- Sharif as its capital, and to reach a just solution that guarantees the return of Palestinian refugees in accordance with the UN General Assembly resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948.

8- We call upon all OIC Member States to engage with the Palestinian cause and the question of Al-Quds Al-Sharif as the primary issues on which Member States must adopt a unified stand at the international fora. We task the OIC and its institutions to adopt appropriate measures in this regard in order to ensure realization of OIC's common positions in international organizations in order to protect the interest of the Muslim World.

9- We call on Member States to establish an Islamic Financial Safety Net to assist Palestine, and we mandate the OIC General Secretariat to take practical measures to follow up its implementation.

10- We commend OIC Member States for their support for the Palestinian People, and in particular Saudi Arabia's financial assistance in the amount of US$100 million in support of Palestine's budget to enable it meet its commitments to the Palestinian People, support their resilience, and meet the responsibilities in implementation of the resolutions of the Arab Summits in addition to its monthly contribution of US$20 million in conformity with the Arab financial safety net adopted at the Council of the Arab League.

11- We call upon the OIC Member States, the General Secretariat and the IDB to promptly hold a donor conference, in cooperation with the donor states around the world and the relevant international institutions and in coordination with the State of Palestine, in order to finance the Strategic Sector Plan for the Development of the City of Al Quds adopted by the 4th Extraordinary Islamic Summit held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah in August 2012.

12- We hence condemn strongly Israel's continuous building of the Apartheid Wall around the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the subsequent confiscation of thousands of dunums owned by Palestinian citizens, altering the contiguity of the West Bank and isolating Palestinian villages from each other. We also condemn Israel's failure to abide by the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) issued on 9 July 2004 concerning the separation wall as well as its failure to comply with UN General Assembly resolution 15/10 adopted on 20 July 2004. We call upon all States and relevant international organizations to work towards compelling Israel to remove the Apartheid Wall, lift the blockade imposed on the holy city, and refrain from demolishing homes, retracting Palestinian citizens' identity documents and emptying the city of Al Quds Al Sharif from its Arab citizens after seizing their homes, particularly in Silwan and Sheikh Jarrah neighborhoods.

13- We underscore the need for the Israeli credentials submitted to the United Nations not to include the territory occupied in 1967, including East Jerusalem.

14- We reiterate our call upon States, entities and international organizations to abide by the international resolutions on the city of Al-Quds as an indivisible part of the Palestinian and Arab territories occupied in 1967. We call upon them not to participate in any meetings or activities that are likely to serve Israel's objectives of tightening its grip over the occupied city and annexing it. We also call upon States, entities and international organizations to bring their pressure to bear on Israel to reopen the institutions of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and the Palestinian Authority (PA) in Al-Quds.

15- We stress the need to implement UN Security Council resolution 237 on the return of Palestinian displaced persons and UN General Assembly resolution 194 on the return of the Palestinian refugees to their land and properties as two crucial foundations for any comprehensive and just settlement.

16- We call on all Palestinian parties to join forces under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and in this regard, invite all Palestinian factions to respond promptly to the calls of President Mahmoud Abbas, President of the State of Palestine, for holding general elections as soon as possible, and enabling the Palestinian Elections Commission to do its work in all Palestinian cities, being the shortest way to achieve Palestinian reconciliation and we highly appreciate the role of the Arab Republic of Egypt to realize it. We highlight the current opportunity conducive to reaching the Palestinian reconciliation and its

significance in unifying Palestinian structures so as to encompass all factions in line with the preparation process for the new legislative elections in the occupied Palestinian, including Al-Quds Ash-Sharif.

17- We call on the UN Security Council and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to take necessary measures to ensure the respect by Israel, the occupying power, of international law and cease all unlawful and illegal actions in the occupied Palestinian territory including in and around Al-Quds city, including its attempts to destroy Palestinian natural and cultural heritage in the south western part of the City. We strongly condemn the persistence of the Israeli archaeological excavations and works in the Old City of Jerusalem and the failure by Israel to provide the World Heritage Centre with adequate and comprehensive information about its archeological activities thereon.

18- We encourage Member States which have not yet done so to join the Al-Quds and Al-Aqsa Funds and to contribute financially to them in conformity with the provisions of the resolution 6-39 adopted by the 39th Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

19- We commend the efforts of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, Chairman of the Al-Quds Committee, for protecting Islamic holy sites in Al-Quds Al-Sharif and confronting the measures taken by the Israeli authorities to Judaize the city of Al-Quds. We look forward to the holding of the 20th Session of the Al-Quds Committee soon, under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Mohammed VI. We also appreciate the tangible role played by the Bayt Mal Al-Quds Al-Sharif Agency established by the Al-Quds Committee through the accomplishment of developmental projects and activities for the inhabitants of the Holy City and in supporting of their resilience, and we call on Member States to increase support for the Agency to enable to enable the Agency to continue its work.

20- We affirm our support for the continued efforts of His Majesty King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, in preserving the city of Al-Quds Sharif and supporting the steadfastness of its Arab citizens in the face of Israeli attempts to obliterate the identity of the city, change its Arab, Islamic and Christian character and depopulate it of its indigenous population, and we commend his efforts to reconstruct Islamic and Christian places in the city, in particular the restoration of the Saladin historical pulpit, the maintenance of the Dome of the Rock, the renovation of the Islamic museum, and the preservation of Islamic and Christian Waqfs in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

Lebanon:

21- We reaffirm our support for Lebanon to fully liberate all its territories from Israeli occupation through all legitimate means; we stress that Israel must withdraw from the Shebaa Farms, Tilal Kafr Shouba Hills and the Lebanese part of Al-Ghajar village. We call for the full implementation of resolution 1701 (2006) and strongly condemn Israel's continued violations of Lebanon's sovereignty by land, sea and air including the spy networks planted in Lebanon. We express our support for Lebanon's right to benefit from its petroleum and gas resources in its exclusive economic zone. We underscore the right of the Palestinian refugees to return to their home-land and reject any form of resettling them. We commend the "BABDA" declaration issued by the National Dialogue Commission on 11 June 2011 including the part related to the national constants.

Syrian Golan:

22- We strongly condemn Israel's policy refusing to comply with Security Council Resolution 497 (1981) concerning the occupied Syrian Golan and Israel's policies of annexation and building of colonial settlements, confiscation of land, diversion of water sources, and imposition of Israeli nationality upon Syrian citizens. We also demand that Israel completely withdraws from the occupied Syrian Golan to the June 4th 1967 border pursuant to Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), the principle of land for peace, the terms of reference of the Madrid Peace Conference and the Arab Peace Initiative, adopted by the Arab Summit held in Beirut on 28 March 2002.

23- We reaffirm the need to compel Israel to comply immediately with the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians in Time of War which was adopted on 12 August 1949 and to apply those provisions to the Syrian detainees in the occupied Syrian Golan. We also demand that Israel releases all Syrian detainees who are citizens of the occupied Syrian Golan some of whom have remained in detention for more than 25 years.

Syria:

24- We stress the need to preserve Syria's unity, sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity; we strongly condemn the ongoing bloodshed in Syria, and underline the Syrian Government's primary responsibility for the continued violence and destruction of property. We express grave concern over the deteriorating situation, the increasing frequency of killings, which claim the lives of thousands of unarmed civilians, and the perpetration of massacres in towns and villages by the Syrian authorities.

25- We call for immediate cessation of violence, killings and destruction, for the respect of Islamic values, human rights, and for saving Syria from the danger of an all-out civil war, including its dangerous consequences on the Syrian people, on the region, and on international peace and security. We urge the Syrian regime to show wisdom, and call for a serious dialogue to take place between the National Coalition of Syrian Revolution, Opposition Forces and representatives of the Syrian Government committed to political transformation in Syria and who have not been directly involved in any form of oppression, in order to pave the way for a transition process that would lead the Syrian people to achieve their aspirations for democratic reforms and changes. We appeal to the National Coalition for Syrian Revolution and Opposition Forces to speed up the constitution of a transitional government representing all parties and factions of its people without any discrimination or exclusion, and to be ready to assume the political responsibility in full until the completion of the political change process sought. We warn that the continued military escalation which has been rejected and condemned by the international community will push the country to slide towards dangerous risks threatening peace, security and stability in the country and in the entire region.

26- In this vein, we support the quartet initiative launched by His Excellency Dr. Mohamed Morsy, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt at the Fourth Extraordinary Summit held in Makkah Al-Maharajah. This initiative represents a tangible effort to settle the crisis through a consensus that would preserve the rights and fulfill the just demands of the Syrian people, and guarantee at the same time territorial integrity of Syria, while welcoming any efforts by member states in support of the objectives of the initiative.

27- We reaffirm our support to a Syrian-led political solution to the crisis in Syria, and express our support for the mission of Mr. Lakhdar Brahimi, the Joint Special Representative of the United Nations and the League of Arab States.

28- We call on the Security Council to assume its full responsibilities by putting an end to the ongoing violence and bloodshed in Syria and finding a peaceful and lasting solution to the Syrian crisis.

29- We welcome the agreement reached by the Syrian opposition in Doha on 11 November 2012 under the generous patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar and the formation of the Syrian National Coalition of the Revolution and Opposition Forces. We extend gratitude to the State of Qatar for its appreciated efforts to achieve the Doha agreement and call on the remaining opposition to join this national coalition so that it brings together without exception all the spectrum of the Syrian opposition. We also express our solidarity with Syrian neighboring states.

30- We commend the directives of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to provide humanitarian assistance to displaced the Syrians, directly or through conferences, in Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon in order to mitigate their humanitarian plight.

31- We commend the earnest efforts deployed by the State of Kuwait to host the donors Conference on the humanitarian situation in Syria held in Kuwait on 30 January 2013 under the auspices of the United Nations in response to serious humanitarian difficulties faced by the innocent Syrians. We express our deep gratitude to all donor countries, organizations and institutions that pledged money in excess of US $1.5 billion to achieve the desire objectives of this important conference and call on other countries and organizations to provide assistance to the Syrian people.

32- We affirm the importance of protecting religious and historical sites in Syria from destruction, and urge to take the necessary measures in this regard.

33- We affirm our strong commitment to secure humanitarian assistance for the Syrian people, and urge Member States to donate generously to the Syrian people in coordination with the competent international and regional bodies, including the OIC General Secretariat to implement all its humanitarian assistance activities in Syria and to coordinate also in this connection with the Support Unit of National Coalition for Syrian Revolution and Opposition Forces.

34- We strongly condemn the unjustified and unlawful Israeli aggression on 30 January 2013 against sovereignty and territorial integrity of Syria and request the international community to take prompt action to stop such future aggression particularly at this very delicate situation on the ground.

35- We commend the efforts of the Syrian neighboring countries Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq in hosting massive and increasing numbers of Syrian brothers and for the assistance they have already provided, acknowledge the security, financial, socio-economic and environmental impact on these countries and call upon OIC Member States to provide more funding, resources and support in order to assist those States and enable them to continue providing humanitarian assistance and care in line with the principle of international solidarity, cooperation and burden sharing. We also commend the efforts of other member states in hosting Syrian brothers especially Egypt and Libya.

36- We commend the fourth ministerial meeting of the Friends of the Syrian people group, which was held in Marrakech on 12 December 2012, and witnessed the participation of more than 130 states, international organizations regional and non-governmental international associations.

Libya

37- We commend the ongoing political transformations in Libya and the efforts to build a state of law and institutions. We are satisfied with the political transformation that enabled Libya to return to its pioneering position in the service of Islamic causes.

Yemen:

38- We express our full and continued support to the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Yemen, and call upon all the Member States to extend all necessary assistance to the new leadership to consolidate peace, stability security and development in the country.

39- We commend the achievements of the initiative presented by the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to resolve the crisis in the Republic of Yemen and achieve the peaceful transition of power, and the efforts of the Yemeni President and the National Unity Government in implementing the GCC initiative and its timed mechanism. We welcome the call of H.E. President Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi to start the comprehensive National Dialogue Conference on 18th March 2013 and urge all relevant parties to participate positively in this Conference with a view to preserving the unity of Yemeni territory and people. We also commend the commitment by the international community to supporting security, unity, stability and development in Yemen, including the positive role played by the 'Friends of Yemen' initiative. We highly appreciate the efforts of the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for organizing and holding two conferences for the 'Friends of Yemen' and donors in Riyadh to mobilize support for Yemen's economy and achieve development in the Republic of Yemen.

Bahrain:

40- We value the initiative undertaken by His Royal Majesty King Hamad Bin Issa Al Khalifa, the Monarch of the Kingdom of Bahrain, which called for a national dialogue among all factions of the Bahrain society, aimed at fulfilling the requirements of modernization, achieving continued reform, realizing the aspiration of the Bahraini people, enhancing understanding, strengthening, and reserving national security, safety and territorial integrity. We call upon all factions of the Bahraini society to respond positively to the initiative of HRM King of Bahrain, in order to resume the national dialogue aimed at reaching consensus on matters that would ensure the national interests and promote prosperity for the people of Bahrain.

Sudan:

41- We reaffirm our full support for the Sudan and respect for its unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

42- We welcome the Framework Agreement which was signed in Addis Ababa on 27 September 2012 between H.E. Omar Hasan Ahmad Al-Bashir, President of the Republic of the Sudan, and H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Republic of South Sudan, which addressed a number of outstanding issues between the two countries, and the latest agreement signed on 5th January 2013 in

Addis Ababa. We express the hope that the Agreements would help find a final solution to all outstanding issues and develop bilateral relations between the two countries in all domains.

43- We further reiterate the support of the Member States for the Sudan in its efforts to confront its economic and financial difficulties after the secession of South Sudan, and appeal to the Member States and OIC financial institutions to contribute in providing all forms of support and assistance to the Sudan in order to enable it overcome the critical economic situation. We urge the Sudan and South Sudan to maintain good neighborliness and seek to resolve peacefully all outstanding issues between them through dialogue and negotiation.

44- We commend the steps taken in implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement signed in Doha – Qatar. We call upon the non signatories to the Doha agreement to join the process. We also call upon the OIC General Secretariat and Member States to follow up the implementation of the outcome of the International Donors Conference for the reconstruction and peace building in Darfur. We also commend the initiative propose by the State of Qatar to establish Darfur Development Bank, and its offer to support the efforts exerted to establish the Bank and to contribute to its capital.

45- We commend the initiative of the State of Kuwait for holding a donors' conference for the reconstruction of East Sudan held in Kuwait on 1-2 December 2010 and its contribution of US$ 500 million to implement development projects in East Sudan.

46- With regard to the complaint submitted by Sudan against Uganda, we call on the Secretary General to form a fact-finding committee and that the said committee presents its report at the earliest date possible.

Somalia:

47- We welcome Somalia's significant achievement in selecting the new parliament members and the election of President Hassan Sheikh Mahmoud through a transparent and democratic process, and under supervision by regional and international organizations, most notably the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. We also welcome the subsequent formation of a new government, which was able in a short period of time to improve the security situation, promote stability, restructure state institutions, particularly security and financial institutions and the judiciary. This, in addition to opening dialogues with the political forces, and reaching out to its regional neighbors and the international community, which enabled it to establish new bilateral relations with the United States, European countries, and Arab, Islamic and African countries, Japan and China, as well as with international donor organizations including the World bank, the Islamic Development Bank, and certain Arab funds.

48- We commend the role of the OIC Office of Humanitarian Affairs in Somalia for its outstanding work in assisting the Somali people during the past two years. We mandate the OIC General Secretariat and the IDB, in cooperation with the Government of Somalia, to set up the implementation mechanisms for the decision issued by the OIC 38th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (Res. 38/39-P), held in Astana, in July 2011 on the establishment of a Trust Fund for the reconstruction of Somalia. We urge Member States to open embassies in Somalia to help strengthen bilateral ties between Somalia and Islamic States, and we support the request made by the Federal Republic of Somalia to the United Nations to lift the arms embargo on Somalia, as a step towards rebuilding the

Somali forces to enable it to promote security, stability and development in the country. We also commend the efforts exerted by the Government of Somalia in the areas of dialogue, national reconciliation, and call upon the armed opposition groups to respond to the government's call to renounce violence and resort to peaceful means to voice their goals and demands, to ultimately achieve the Somali people's wish to appreciate security, stability, and development.

49- We commend the visit by the Secretary General to Somalia on 8th October 2012, and urge all Member States to enhance their engagement with Somalia in order to assist the country rebuild state institutions and capacities as a way of contributing to its stabilization.

Djibouti:

50- We reaffirm our full solidarity with the Republic of Djibouti in its territorial dispute with Eritrea, and commend the efforts of the government of the Republic of Djibouti to end tension with peaceful means. We urge Eritrea to release Djiboutian prisoners promptly, to provide the needed information on missing persons, to comply fully with the UN Security Council resolution 1907 (2009) and to respond positively to the State of Qatar's mediation efforts to resolve the conflict.

Union of Comoros:

51- We reitertate our call to all Member States as well as OIC Affiliated Institutions to support the Union of the Comoros in conformity with CFM Resolution 7/39-POL by materializing the announcements made during the Doha Conference on investment in Comoros and by making available to the Comoros the resources required to implement the socio-economic development programmes.

52- We commend the Union of Comoros for having concluded the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiatives in collaboration with the Breton Woods institutions. We invite Member States and financial institutions to show further solidarity with the friendly state of Union of Comoros by proceeding with the reduction or cancelation of its external debts as already done by Western countries and financial institutions which have or are still supporting HIPC initiatives by promoting win-win investment in this country.

Mali:

53- We reiterate our support for the safe-guarding of the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Mali. We firmly condemn the acts of diverse terrorist groups and movements as well as the transnational organized crime and drug trafficking networks which constitute a real threat to the security and stability of Mali and entire region, aimed at disrupting the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Mali. We reaffirm our full solidarity with the people of Mali and its National Union Government.

54- We reiterate our firm support for the current efforts aimed at recovering the territorial integrity and re-establishment of state authority by the Republic of Mali on its entire national territory. In this regard, we take note of the adoption of resolution 2085 (2012) by UN Security Council which sets out a global approach for resolving the multidimensional crisis existing in Mali and the current initiatives by the African Union and the Economic Commission of West African States. We call for the

accelerated deployment of the International Support Mission in Mali (AFISMA) and invite Member States to provide logistical and financial support to this mission. While calling upon member states and humanitarian organizations to supply the necessary humanitarian aid in order to relieve the suffering endured by millions of refugees and displaced persons in Mali and in the sub-Saharan region, we extend our gratitude to the countries which have already offered contributions in the wake of the Donors' Conference held in Addis Ababa on 29 January 2013. We strongly condemn the heinous acts perpetrated by terrorist groups and organizations against the civilian population, the destruction of cultural sites in Timbuktu especially those classified by UNESCO as world cultural heritage and call upon ISESCO to participate in the protection and preservation of this heritage.

55- We commend the National Unity Government for preparing the road map and the National Assembly for adopting it. We urge the Transitional Authorities to implement the road map by organizing free, transparent and credible Presidential and Parliamentary elections and the adoption of a comprehensive approach taking into consideration all the dimension of this crisis. We insist once again on the importance of supporting the development efforts in the Sahel region in general and in Mali in particular.

56- We welcome the designation by OIC Secretary General of HE Mr. Djibrill Bassole, the Foreign Minister of Burkina Faso, who has been serving as the Representative of the ECOWAS Mediator to also serve as OIC Special Envoy for Mali and the Sahel to the region in order to lead OIC's efforts in contributing to the peaceful resolution of the conflict.

Niger:

57- We note with satisfaction the democratic transition in the Republic of Niger through recent successful elections, and call to Member States to continue to support the country in coping with the challenges of sustainable development including an emergency humanitarian aid to face an increasing flow of Malien Refugees.

Cote d'Ivoire:

58- We reaffirm our solidarity with Cote d'Ivoire in its peace building endeavors and the renewal of its war-ravaged economy. In this context, we urge the Secretary General to step up efforts to convene the donors' conference as approved by the 38th CFM, and appeal to the Member States to actively participate and generously contribute in the said conference for the reconstruction of Cote d'Ivoire.

Guinea:

59- We welcome the positive political and economic developments in Guinea, and call upon all OIC Member States and OIC institutions to extend necessary economic, political and financial support to Guinea to implement its development projects and activities.

Nigeria

60- We welcome the overall endeavors of the authorities in Nigeria in combating the activities posed by armed and terrorist groups which continue to threaten the peace, unity and harmony in the country ar 1 reiterate our full support and solidarity with the government and people of Nigeria in this regard.

Azerbaijan:

61- We condemn the aggression of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan, reaffirm that acquisition of territory by use of force is inadmissible under the Charter of the United Nations and the international law, and urge for strict implementation of UN Security Council resolutions Nos. 822, 853, 874 and 884 and for immediate, full and unconditional withdrawal of the armed forces of Armenia from occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan, including its Nagorno Karabakh region. We call for the resolution of the conflict within the sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of the internationally recognized borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan. We deplore the destruction of the cultural heritage and sacred Islamic sites, the forced demographic changes, interference with property rights, illegal economic activities in the Nagorno Karabakh region and other occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and urge Member States to prevent their legal and natural persons from getting involved in these illegal activities. We reaffirm our principled support for the efforts of the Republic of Azerbaijan, including within the UN General Assembly, aimed at restoring its territorial integrity and sovereignty.

Afghanistan:

62- We urge the Member States and the international community to continue their vigorous support and assistance to the people and Government of Afghanistan in fighting terrorism, counter drug trafficking, achieve security, stability, rehabilitation and reconstruction as well as comprehensive and sustainable development. We reaffirm our support to enhanced regional cooperation which bears relevance for ensuring sustained peace and stability in Afghanistan and beyond, and welcome the Istanbul Process as a new agenda for regional cooperation in the "Heart of Asia" by placing Afghanistan at its center and engaging the "Heart of Asia" countries to strengthen trust and cooperation in the region for a peaceful and stable Afghanistan as well as a secure and prosperous region as a whole. We also welcome the proposal of Kazakhstan to host the Istanbul Process Ministerial Meeting in Almaty on 26 April 2013 and call upon Member States to participate in this event. We commend the UAE for facilitating the opening of the OIC office in Kabul. We welcome the ongoing positive developments in Afghanistan, especially support the Afghan owned and Afghan led peace process based on the Constitution of Afghanistan, which hopefully would contribute to strengthening stability in the country. We also welcome the meeting of the International Contact Group on Afghanistan held at the OIC Headquarters in Jeddah on 3 March 2011 which highlighted the essential role of the OIC and its Member States must play in supporting the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, during Transition and Decade of Transformation to secure a stable, democratic and prosperous Afghanistan.

63- We express our deep appreciation to countries, in particular the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran for hosting a large number of Afghan refugees and acknowledge the huge burden they have shouldered in this regard. We call on the international community and the relevant UN agencies for the provision of enhanced assistance to the Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons to facilitate their voluntary, safe and dignified return and sustainable reintegration into the society of origin so as to contribute to the stability of Afghanistan.

Jammu and Kashmir:

64- We reaffirm our principled support to the people of Jammu and Kashmir for the realization of their legitimate right to self-determination, in accordance with relevant UN resolutions and aspirations of the Kashmiri people. We express our concern at the indiscriminate use of force and gross violations of human rights committed in Indian Occupied Kashmir (IOK) by Indian security forces which have resulted in killing scores of innocent and unarmed civilians as well as injuring hundreds of others including women, children and elderly. We call upon India to allow the OIC Fact-Finding Mission and the international human rights groups and humanitarian organizations to visit Jammu and Kashmir.

65- We urge India to undertake independent investigations into the discovery of mass graves including DNA testing and ensure free and fair trail of those responsible of those heinous crimes. We express deep concern on the recent ceasefire violations along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir and urge for the need to observe the ceasefire in letter and spirit and to abide by and strengthen existing military mechanism put in place by India and Pakistan to ensure peace. Welcoming the proposal to hold investigations through the United Nations Military Observers Group for India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) on the recent ceasefire violations, we call for enhancing its role for better monitoring of the ceasefire on the LoC. We further commend the efforts of Pakistan and its readiness to engage with India to resolve all outstanding issues including the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

Kosovo

66- We renew the call made in Resolution no. 15/39-Pol which was adopted during the 39th Session of the OIC CFM, addressed to all Member States of the Organization that have not yet done so, to consider recognizing Kosovo, based on their free and sovereign rights as well as on their national legislations. We also reaffirm the call to Member States to continue contributing to the fostering of the Kosovo's economy.

Bosnia:

67- We reiterate our firm support to preserve the territorial integrity, sovereignty, equality of the two entities and the three constituent peoples and others, within internationally recognized borders of Bosnia and Herzegovina. We call upon all political leaders in Bosnia and Herzegovina to join their forces for the common future of the country and thus focus on the reform process.

Northern Cyprus:

68- We regret that the last negotiation process for a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue initiated under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General's Good Offices Mission in 2008 was unable to produce a result, and declare our support for a just, comprehensive and lasting settlement in Cyprus based on the inherent constitutive power of the two peoples, their political equality and co-ownership of the Island. We express our solidarity with the Turkish Cypriots and our appreciation for their constructive efforts to attain a mutually acceptable settlement and call on Member States to strengthen effective solidarity with the Turkish Cypriot State.

Muslim Communities and Minorities in non-OIC Member States:

69- We reiterate our support to the Secretary General's efforts, initiatives and good offices aimed at finding just solutions to the political, cultural and economic issues of Muslim communities and minorities in non-OIC Member States. We commend the expansion of these efforts to include new countries in North America, Australia, and Europe, and the Secretary General's continued efforts to address the issues of Muslims in Southern Philippines, Southern Thailand, Republic of Myanmar, as well as the issues of Muslims in the Balkans, the Caucasus, India, etc., in total respect of the sovereignty of the States in which these communities live. We affirm that the current challenges require the adoption of the principles of dialogue and cooperation and the obligation to respect the culture and traditions of peoples.

70- We reiterate the need to resolve the issue of Muslims in Southern Philippines promptly. We urge the Government of the Philippines (GPH) and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) to continue their efforts in order to find a solution to pending issues, consistent with the 1976 Tripoli Agreement and the 1996 Final Peace Agreement, related to the autonomous region, revenue sharing, definition of strategic minerals and the Transitional Mechanism.

71- We welcome the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro (FAB) signed on 15 October 2012 between the GPH and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) under the facilitation of the Government of Malaysia. We urge the GPH, the MILF and the MNLF to continue their efforts in close cooperation in order to find solutions to pending issues. We affirm the need to relate the FAB to the 1976 Tripoli Agreement and we urge the OIC Secretary General to exert his efforts with the GPH, MILF and MNLF to avoid any discrepancies between the two tracks of negotiations.

72- We denounce the continuation of atrocious acts against Rohingya Muslim community in Myanmar which represents a serious violation of the international law and international human rights covenants; and urge the Government of Myanmar to take all necessary measures to protect their basic rights, including their basic right to a nationality and from all forms of discrimination in accordance with UNGA Resolution A/RES/67/233. We also affirm the responsibility of the international community to work with the Government of Myanmar to take all necessary measures to protect minorities in its territories and put an end to violence against the Rohingya Muslim minority; and call on the Government of Myanmar to grant easy access for humanitarian aid to be channeled to the affected and the needy.

73- We stress the need to promote cooperation and dialogue with non-OIC Member States hosting Muslim minorities and communities, and also with the true representatives of those communities, in such a way as to safeguard their rights, including their right to a nationality, and likewise emphasize the need for continued, close monitoring of any new developments; welcome the invitation extended by the Government of Myanmar to the OIC Secretary General to visit Myanmar, including the Rakhine State and urge the Government of Myanmar to facilitate this visit as soon as possible; We welcome ASEAN Member States' firm commitment to help resolve this issue; and the participation of the OIC and the international community to work closely with the Government of Myanmar to continue addressing this issue in support of the democratic and reform process in Myanmar.

74- We call upon the authorities in Myanmar to cooperate with all related parties and allow the humanitarian assistance to reach all people and groups affected, and request the OIC General

Secretariat to coordinate with the authorities in Myanmar for the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Contact Group on Rohingya to visit Myanmar to assess the needs of humanitarian assistance for those affected and coordinate with the authorities in Myanmar to develop a plan for the urgent provision of this assistance. We appreciate all assistance offered by Member States to Rohingya Muslims, including the significant USD 50 million financial support provided by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and humanitarian assistance provided by Turkey, UAE and others.

75- We express our support to the just cause of the Turkish Muslim Minority in Western Thrace and the Muslim population of the Dodecanese, and call on Greece to take all necessary measures to ensure the respect of the rights of Muslim community and their identity and culture, taking into account the widespread reactions of the Muslim Minority in Western Thrace against the latest regulations on the appointment of 240 Imams in Greece. We also call for refraining from taking further steps on that matter against the will of its Muslim citizens.

76- We commend the efforts of the Secretary General in following up the situation of Muslims in Southern Thailand, and were encouraged by the Government of Thailand's continued efforts to overcome the obstacles in the implementation of the commitments included in the 2007 Joint Statement. We express hope that the Government of Thailand will make further constructive steps and request the Secretary General to continue the constructive dialogue with the Government of Thailand in the interest of Muslims in Southern Thailand towards the achievement of peace and stability therein.

Combating Terrorism:

77- We strongly condemn terrorism, including State terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations committed by whomsoever and wherever, and reaffirm our commitment to strengthen mutual cooperation in the fight against terrorism through, inter alia, evolving an appropriate definition of terrorism by consensus at the international level as well as international convention to combat terrorism.

78- We take note of the adoption of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in 2006 and its three reviews in 2008, 2010 and 2012, and reaffirm its status as a living document to be updated and call for the subsequent review mechanism of the strategy to take into account the root causes of terrorism and draw distinction between acts of terrorism, being unequivocally unlawful and rejected, and the legitimate struggle for the right of self-determination by the people under foreign occupation and colonial or alien domination. We recognize that a time-structured approach, envisaging short, medium, and long-term objectives, to the implementation of the strategy could best accommodate the contentious issues related to the strategy. We call upon Member States to sign and ratify the OIC Convention on Combating International Terrorism, if they have not already done so.

79- We consider that financing of terrorism is a matter of grave concern to the international community and recognized that the payment of ransoms to terrorist groups constitutes one of the main sources of financing of terrorism. We urge Member States not to pay ransoms and to cooperate for banning the payment of ransoms claimed by terrorist groups.

80- We express our deep concern over the rise of systematic State terrorism manifested, among others, by blatantly assassinating Iranian scientists and researchers and condemn such abhorrent terrorists acts.

81- We commend the continuous efforts of all Member States in strengthening global efforts in order to effectively eliminate all forms of terrorism. In this regard, we reiterate our support to the continued efforts made by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah Bin Abdul-Aziz Al-Saud in establishing the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, and the commencement of its activities.

82- We strongly condemn the terrorist attack against the Gas compound in Ein Aminas, Algeria perceived not only as an aggression against Algeria and the neighboring countries, but also against the very values of Islam, particularly tolerance and dialogue. We highly value the prompt and firm action of the Algerian authorities which defeated the criminal objectives of the terrorist groups and save the lives of hundreds of innocent human beings. We reaffirm our full support with the Algerian people and authorities.

83- We welcome the International Conference on "Strengthening International Cooperation in Preventing Terrorism", jointly organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Islamic Scientific and Educational Organization (ISESCO), to be held on 18-19 March in Baku, Azerbaijan, under the patronage of H.E. Mr. Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and in this regard, call the Member States to actively participate in this event.

Disarmament:

84- We reaffirm our continued support for the establishment of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in the Middle East, and call on Israel, as the only non-NPT party in the Middle East, to accede, unconditionally and without further delay, to the Treaty as a non-nuclear-weapon party, and to place all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive safeguards of the IAEA.

85- To this end, we regret the statements issued by the conveners of the 2012 Conference on the Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Weapons of Mass Destruction, on postponing the conference scheduled to be held in December 2012 in Finland, according to the Final Document of the 2010 NPT Review.

86- We express our grave concern over the failure of Israel to declare its participation in the Conference on the Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Weapons of Mass Destruction, continuous to undermine the convening of the Conference as well as the realization of Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Weapons of Mass Destruction.

87- We also express our rejection to this postponement, since it represents a serious breach of the decision taken by the Member State Parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty in accordance with section IV of the Conclusion an d Recommendations for the Follow-up actions of the Final Document of the 2010 NPT Review Conference in which it was clearly stated that the UN Secretary General, United States, United Kingdom and Russia to convene the conference in 2012, with the participation of all the countries of the region, and in the context of implementing the Middle East Resolution adopted by the Review and Extension Conference and the indefinite extension of the NPT in 1995.

88- We express our sincere belief that the pretexts announced for postponing the conference are rather unrealistic, especially in relation to the provisions stated in the 2010 Review Conference Final Document, and thus put on record our utmost reservations on what is being raised about the inability of the conveners to implement the mandate issued by all the NPT parties because of the "Non-Constructive" attitudes adopted by non-Party to the treaty, as well as, with regards to the non-conducive environment in the Middle East to hold the conference according to schedule. We call for speedy convening of the conference.

89- We reaffirm the inalienable right of all states to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes in accordance with the criteria fixed by the International Atomic Energy Agency and under its auspices, and the cooperation between OIC Member States in this regards.

90- We call upon Member States to support the initiative of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the adoption of the Universal Declaration of a Nuclear-Weapon-free World, as an important step towards the adoption of the Nuclear Weapons Convention.

91- We welcome the nuclear-weapon-free status of Central Asia which is a significant contribution into strengthening of global regime of non-proliferation. In this respect we call upon nuclear weapon states to sign the Protocol on negative security guarantees to the Central Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Treaty.

92- We emphasize once more that nothing in the NPT shall be interpreted as affecting the inalienable right of the parties to the Treaty to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with articles I, II, III and IV of Treaty. We stress that this rights constitutes one of the fundamental objectives of the Treaty. In this connection, I we confirm that each country's choices and decision in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy should be respected without jeopardizing its policies or international co-operation agreements and arrangements for peaceful uses of nuclear energy and its fuel-cycle policies.

Human Rights:

93- We reaffirm that Human Rights in Islam are an integral part of the overall Islamic order and it is obligatory on all Muslim governments and organs of society to implement them in letter and in spirit within the framework of that order.

94- We reaffirm the civilizing and historical role of the Islamic Ummah in contributing to the efforts of mankind to promote and protect fundamental rights and freedoms which are an integral part of the Islamic religion and that no one shall have the right as a matter of principle to abolish them either in whole or in part or to violate them or ignore them.

95- We commend the progress made by the Independent Permanent Human Rights' Commission within the short time ~~of~~ since its establishment, welcome the finalization of its Rules of Procedure, and call on all Member States to lend their full support to the Commission to enable it to function in accordance with the mandate as provided for in its Statute, with particular emphasis on the four priority areas identified by the Commission in the initial stage of its work, namely the Human Rights for Women, Rights of the Child, the Right to Development, and Human Rights Education.

96- We recognize the importance of the Tunisian initiative on creating an international constitutional court within the United Nations System as a consultative and judicial structure mandated with ensuring respect and development of the concepts of democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

Islamophobia:

97- We express deep concern that the culture of peaceful coexistence and inter-communal and interreligious tolerance is under threat from marginal and extremist fanatics, and from the mushrooming xenophobic discourse espoused by extremist politicians and political parties that, for the sake of narrow domestic political gains, exploit the socio-economic difficulties faced by their societies to foment hatred against Islam and Muslims through negative stereotyping and defamation. We underscore in this regard that the global nature of migration in today's world poses immense challenges, but more importantly offers great opportunities for coalescing the forces of change to enhance cultural interaction and tolerance.

98- We express our grave concern at the continued rise of attacks on Islam and Muslims and in particular the attack on the sacred image of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) the burning of the Holy Qur'an and negative stereotyping and discrimination against Muslims We recognize the fundamental role of religions and beliefs in shaping their adherents conception of life and identity, and that many may accordingly consider denigration of religions as a direct assault on their own selves. We are alarmed at the rising trends in some national policies, laws and administrative measures that stigmatize people belonging to certain religions and beliefs, particularly Islam, under a variety of pretexts, hence impeding their freedom to express their identity, legitimizing discrimination against them and impairing their ability to observe, practice and manifest their religion freely without fear of coercion, violence or reprisal. We call on Member States to develop a unified strategy to impress upon the international community to take effective measures against such acts of incitement of intolerance and hatred that may lead to violence and loss of lives.

99- We reaffirm that Islam is a religion of moderation and openness which rejects all forms of intolerance, extremism and introversion and, in this connection, underscores the importance of countering any dissemination or propagation of aberrant ideology with all means available. We call for developing educational curricula in such a way as to inculcate the true Islamic values of mutual understanding, tolerance, dialogue and pluralism, and for establishing bridges between the members of the Islamic Ummah to enhance unity and solidarity through the holding of symposia and conferences that would explain these values. We also call for combating extremism disguised as religion and doctrine, refraining from declaring followers of other Islamic schools of thought as disbelievers and deepening dialogue between these schools to promote moderation and tolerance. We commend the proposal by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques during the 2012 Makkah Al-Mukarammah Extraordinary Summit to establish a centre for dialogue among the schools of thought to promote unity and solidarity among Muslims.

100- We condemn any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media or any other means. In this regard, we commend the Istanbul Process initiative, and urge for further progress in implementing the steps unanimously agreed in relevant United Nations General Assembly and Human Rights Council resolutions towards the common global goal to combat religious intolerance.

101- We commend the efforts of His Majesty King Abdullah II bin al-Hussein in holding at Amman in 2005 an international conference to discuss the manifestations of defamation of Islam, with participation of Muslim scholars from various schools which produced the Amman Message that reflected the bright image of the great Islam, highlighted the principles of tolerance, moderation and temperance and its keenness for dialogue with the other for the good and progress of human society. We also commend the efforts seeking the promotion of mutual understanding and harmony among religions. We further appreciate the numerous initiatives of His Majesty on bridge building and elimination of misconception among followers of different religions. These initiatives include the World Interfaith Harmony Week endorsed by the UN General Assembly in October, according to which the first week of each February was declared the Interfaith Harmony Week. We welcome endeavors by the States in celebrating the events and activities of this week.

102- We reiterate our strong support of the initiative of His Majesty King Mohammed VI of the Kingdom of Morocco calling for developing an international charter that defines appropriate standards and rules for exercising the right of freedom of expression and opinion, and the obligation to respect religions symbols and sanctities as well as spiritual values and beliefs.

103- We welcome and commend the initiatives taken by Member States including the 10th Anniversary of the initiative of Kazakhstan Leader Nursultan Nazarbayev to conduct the Congress of leaders of world and traditional religions; and the Global Movement of Moderates initiative by Malaysia; the alliance of civilization initiative by Turkey. We call upon the Member States to support the request of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for United Nations to adopt resolution to condemning any state or individual or group that insults divine religions, prophets and messengers while taking preventive measures in this regard.

104- We recognize the need to further institutionalize cooperation among Member States to effectively implement the Strategy on Combating Islamophobia adopted by the 11th Islamic Summit and the importance of expediting the implementation process of its decision on developing a legally binding international instrument to prevent intolerance, discrimination, prejudice and hatred on the grounds of religion, and defamation of religions and to promote and ensure the respect for all religions.

105- We take note with appreciation of the legal advice and conclusions of the Eminent Persons Panel, held on 7 & 8 January 2013, in Istanbul. We request the Secretary-General to commission the studies recommended as a matter of priority. We recognize the need for the Panel to continue its work in close coordination with the Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission to address the malaise of Islamophobia, and requested the Commission to report in this regard to the next meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

106- We call upon all States to ensure, in accordance with their obligations under international human rights and humanitarian law, that religious places, sites, shrines and symbols are fully respected and protected, and to take additional measures in cases where they are vulnerable to vandalism, desecration or destruction.

107- We express satisfaction for the work and regular reporting by the Islamophobia Observatory in the General Secretariat in monitoring Islamophobic incidents. We request the Secretary General to propose a mechanism for response to such observed incidents with full cooperation with Member

States to make the work of the Observatory more effective. We also request the Observatory to further its cooperation with similar organs in partner organizations. We impress upon the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to establish as a matter of priority an international observatory to monitor advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence throughout the world, so as to serve as an early warning mechanism to assist States in fulfilling their obligations under International Human Rights Law.

108- We call on the OIC to take the lead and on the Member States to contribute towards strengthening inter-cultural and inter-faith dialogue and dialogue among civilizations, and welcome the establishment of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Center for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICID) in Vienna aimed at enhancing and supporting efforts at both regional and international levels, towards reducing confrontation, promoting tolerance and inter-faith dialogue and harmony, suppressing Islamophobia and hatred based on race or religion; promoting respect for diversity based on justice, fraternity and equality. We also call on OIC Member States to participate effectively in the activities and programmes of the King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz International Centre for Interfaith and Intercultural Dialogue in Vienna.

109- We commend the Secretary General for engaging in dialogue with the United Nations, and other international organizations, including the OSCE and Council of Europe, political leaders and civil society to underscore the concerns as well as raise global awareness over the dangers of Islamophobia, and for his initiative in building close working cooperation with the UN Alliance of Civilizations, and call on the Member States to support this collaboration towards successful implementation of the recommendations contained in the High Level Group (HLG) of the Alliance of Civilizations. In this regard we take note of the recommendations of the meeting of AoC Focal Points of OIC Member States in Kuwait in January 2013.

110- We take note of the recent establishment of the League of Ulemas, Preaches and Imams of the Sahel countries in Adrar, Algeria and express our support for their role and action in combating religious extremism which threatens the stability and security in the region, and for the dissemination of Islamic values of tolerance and dialogue.

111- We underline the important role of education and responsible media in the promotion of tolerance, and appreciated the efforts of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote and include human rights aspects in educational programmes, particularly the World Programme for Human Rights Education proclaimed by the General Assembly on 10 December 2004. We call for the continuation of such efforts, in collaboration with other relevant bodies of the United Nations system and regional and international organizations, in order to encourage dialogue among civilizations and promote understanding of the universality of human rights and their implementation at various levels. We call upon all States to promote, particularly through education, understanding and respect in all matters relating to freedom of religion or belief, in an effort that involves acceptance by the public of, and its respect for, diversity, including with regard to religious expression. We urge non-governmental organizations, religious leaders and institutions and the media to support and foster such efforts.

112- We commend in this regard the efforts of ISESCO and the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) in countering the negative stereotyping of Islam and Muslims, promoting correct knowledge of Islamic civilization and their contribution to world civilization, combating Islamophobia and fostering dialogue of cultures, civilizations and religions. We invite both organs to

carry on their efforts, inside and outside the Muslim world, in association with partner regional and international organizations, and in coordination with the Secretary-General and Member States, to undertake innovative initiatives and put in place mechanisms to counter the fierce campaign targeting Islamic sanctities and symbols in coordination with national, regional and international media.

Voting at International Fora:

113- We call upon all OIC Member States to abide by previous OIC resolutions which call upon them tc vote for resolutions submitted on behalf of OIC at international fora, in particular at the United Nations. And stress that failure to vote for those resolutions and the announcement of positions different from those agreed upon is a departure from the consensus imposed by the duty of Islamic solidarity between Member States.

114- We mandate the General Secretariat to follow up OIC Member States' voting patterns on resolutions relating to issues of concern to the Organization at international for a and urge Member States to vote in favour of these resolutions which had been adopted by the OIC at Ministerial and Summit levels.

Humanitarian Affairs:

115- We take note of the various initiatives of the OIC General Secretariat in the humanitarian domain to assist affected Member States, and reiterate our support for the OIC in its various humanitarian activities, despite its very limited financial resources. We urge all Member States and their philanthropic and humanitarian civil society organizations to provide the General Secretariat with all necessary means and assistance to enable it to fulfill its duties towards the needy and vulnerable populations in the face of increasing humanitarian challenges, in accordance with rules and regulations in force in each State. We mandate the Secretary General to convene an Expert Group Meeting to conclude discussions on preparing a document for the establishment of a Special Emergency Fund and present it to the next session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

116- We affirm the need to coordinate the relief efforts and activities of relevant civil society institutions to improve the collective performance of the Organization and Member States, and to coordinate efforts, exchange experiences, and encourage the institutions to work through those coordination mechanisms.

117- We welcome the "Justice for Khojaly" international civil awareness campaign initiated in the framework of the "OIC Memorial Day Program" and aimed at disseminating of historical truth on the mass massacre of Azerbaijani civilians perpetuated by the armed forces of the Republic of Armenia in the town of Khojaly in February 1992, which constitutes the crime against humanity. We call upon Member States to support and actively participate in the events of the Campaign and exert due efforts for recognition on national and international levels of this genocidal act as a crime against humanity".

Economic Cooperation:

118- We assess current trends in the global economy and their implications on growth and job creation as well as volatility in international financial markets and the challenges these trends pose to

efforts of Member States for economic recovery and balanced growth. We express our concern that global growth remains modest and unemployment remains high.

119- We emphasize that youth employment crisis is a major challenge to the OIC member States especially the least developed countries and those who lack the fiscal space needed to finance the creation of job opportunities as well as social protection schemes. The youth employment crisis, aggravated by the global economic and financial crisis, is a global challenge. Therefore it needs to be addressed by relevant mechanisms at the international level, taking into account its social and economic characteristics vary considerably in size and nature, within and among countries and regions. It requires actions by governments, employers and workers at the country level to promote create and maintain decent and productive jobs. Youth are part of the solution. Their voices should be heard, their creativity engaged, and their rights respected in dealing with the youth employment crisis.

120- We are determined to work collectively in order to prioritize job-generating growth policies, promoting youth entrepreneurship with the aim of encouraging the growth of sustainable enterprises, promoting the involvement of the social partners in policy development through social dialogue, ensuring all programmes and policies respect the rights of young workers and are gender-sensitive.

121- We commend the role played by the ILO in addressing the negative social implications of the global economic crisis and the global recession, and the focus it gives to the deep effects of the job crisis in the world. And we look forward to working closely with the ILO with a view to generating partnerships that can help OIC Member States in addressing these challenges. To this end, we welcome the convening of the OIC Labour Ministers Conference to be held in Baku, Azerbaijan from 23-26 April, 2013 which aims at putting in place an OIC Framework for Cooperation among its States on issues related to labour and employment.

122- We call upon the Member States to continue coordinating their efforts on global economic issues including issues of stabilization and reform of the financial system and its effects on developing countries, tackling poverty and humanitarian disasters and economic development. Whenever there is the need to the OIC to participate in any of G20 meetings, the OIC Member States in the G20 would seek the support of the Chairman of G20 with a view to securing invitation for OIC participation.

123- We commend the progressive increase in intra-OIC trade from 14.44% in 2004 to 17.71 % in 2011. We recognize the importance of the Trade Preferential System among the OIC Member States (TPS-OIC) as the basis for the realization of the target of 20 percent of intra-OIC trade by 2015, and welcome the entry into force of the Preferential Tariff Scheme (PRETAS) and TPS-OIC Rules of Origin in 2010 and in 2011 respectively. We urge Member States to complete the necessary procedures to make this System operational.

124- We reviewed the current activities of the OIC towards addressing development challenges of its Member States, particularly the establishment of the various poverty alleviation programmes and the promotion of intra-OIC trade. In this regard, we commend the roles of the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC) on promotion of trade between Member States, including the Aid for Trade (AfT) initiatives aimed at mobilizing the support of regional and international partners for its urgent implementation.

125- We affirm, in the framework of robust national security considerations, the importance of upgrading development programmes and reducing poverty, unemployment, combating diseases,

achieving and supporting participation of various segments of the society and the private sector in these programmes and encouraging coordination among them as part of a comprehensive strategy to achieve stability and development and to eliminate conflicts in all member states.

126- We call on all member states to work together in supporting the economies of Arab Spring countries and increasing the volume of investments targeted at them in developmental and services domain.

127- We expressed satisfaction at the increased role of the Islamic Development Bank in promoting socio-economic development in OIC Member States. We recall the Final Communiqué of the Fourth Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, which was held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, Saudi Arabia, on 26-27 Ramadan 1433 AH. (14-15 August 2012), with regard to the substantial increase of the capital of the Islamic Development Bank to enable it meet its obligations to its Member States. In this regard, we invite the IDB Group to take effective measures with to view to scaling up the contribution of the Private Sector to development.

128- Considering the salutary effects of the numerous interventions under the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development in scaling up the developmental activities in OIC Member States, we urge all Member States to contribute, or redeem their respective pledges, to this Fund. We reiterate the need for strengthening the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development with proper mechanisms for supporting vital areas such as capacity building, poverty alleviation, unemployment and epidemics, and responding to the needs of the poorest countries and the fragility of the indebtedness in the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

129- We note with satisfaction the successful implementation of the Special Programme for Development of Africa by the Islamic Development Bank Group. We recommend that the Islamic Development Bank concludes the second programme on the Development of Africa to be implemented in the next five years, given the achievements recorded during the first programme and agree on the need to proceed expeditiously with the elaboration of a successor programme. In the same vein, we hail the establishment of the OIC Plan of Action for Cooperation with Central Asia, and agree that such regional frameworks have huge potentials for promoting effective and rewarding cooperation among the OIC Member States.

130- We welcome various initiatives aimed at expanding intra-OIC cooperation in such sectors as agriculture and food security, tourism, health, labour, environment, transportation and Islamic finance. In this regard, we commend the role of COMCEC and all OIC committees and programmes in operationalizing the OIC projects and activities, particularly the frameworks for tourism, transportation and agriculture, respectively as well as the OIC Dakar-Port Sudan Railway Project. We call on the General Secretariat and IDB to take necessary measures to speed up the implementation of the project. We also commend the initiative of His Highness the Emir of the State of Kuwait to establish a Decent Life Fund with US$100 million, from which several Member States have benefitted to support their food security programme.

131- We also commend the endeavours under the COMCEC for deepening economic and commercial cooperation among the member states, in particular the operationalisation of the Standard and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC), the launch of S&P OIC/COMCEC Index 50 Shariah Index, establishment of COMCEC Capital Markets Regulators' Forum, establishment of

OIC/COMCEC Private Sector Tourism Forum and Transport Cooperation Framework within the OIC (Izmir Document 2011). We request the member states to actively participate in the programmes and projects developed under the auspices of the COMCEC.

132- We welcome the COMCEC Progress Report submitted by H.E. President Abdullah Gul, President of the Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the OIC (COMCEC), and appreciate his valuable efforts and commendable stewardship for the COMCEC to enhance its effectiveness and improve its institutional set up.

133- We welcome the decision of the 39th Session of Council of Foreign Ministers, which was held in Djibouti on 15-17 November 2012, to establish an OIC Food Security institution in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan and the convening of an-OIC Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting charged with the elaboration of the Statute of the said institution, including the adoption of the proposal by the Republic of Djibouti to host in Djibouti the OIC Center for Food Security Reserves for East, Central, Southern and Horn of Africa region. In this regard, we call for the speedy convening of the said EGM and request the General Secretariat to take into consideration the observations of OIC member states.

134- We called upon Member States to participate in the VI Astana Economic Forum, to be held on May 22-24, 2013 in Astana, Kazakhstan, which will discuss the topical issues of the international monetary system, integration, food security, tourism development, innovation, green growth an d to support the initiative of Kazakhstan to hold the International Anti-Crisis Conference with the participation of the United Nations in the frame of above mentioned forum.

Social and Cultural Affairs:

135- We welcome the efforts by the Arab Republic of Egypt to advance the role of women, as reflected in the establishment of the OIC Women Development Organization (WDO), as a Specialized Agency based in Cairo, and invite Member States to join the Organization by signing and ratifying its statute so that it could enter into force, be fully functional and carry its mandate.

136- We commend the OIC General Secretariat and the Governments of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Indonesia for convening the Third and Fourth OIC Conferences on "Women's Role in the Development of OIC Member States" respectively in Tehran, on December 19-21, 2010 and in Jakarta, on 04-06 December 2012 which enhanced OIC collective work towards the advancement of women. We encourage all related stakeholders including the private sector, civil society institutions and the general public to promote gender equality, gender justice and the advancement of women in their work and activities in a manner that would not contradict the Islamic Sharia.

137- We stress the significant and necessity of drafting the covenant on the rights of women in Islam, and underscore the need for taking practical steps to that end.

138- We reemphasize the importance of family in the process of the political, economic and social development of the Islamic societies; and recognize that the issue of family should continue to be part of the discussion of all meetings and forums related to women in the OIC.

139- We commend the OIC Secretary General for his extensive efforts in promoting the cause of women and in empowering them in the OIC Member States, promoting the status of children and preserving their rights as well as empowering the youth and their role in society.

140- We call upon Member States to improve child conditions in the Muslim World and strive towards developing adequate methods for the education and rehabilitation of Muslim youths so as to enhance their role in society with a view to meeting future challenges.

141- We affirm our interest in the promotion of contacts among the youth of our countries in various scientific, academic, cultural, technical, sports, and other domains through regular youth events and activities, and to expand the activities of the OIC Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation in order for it to become a channel of continuous engagement and mutual knowledge, to develop cooperation in programmes, and grant training and student exchange. In this regard, we welcome the establishment of the Islamic Countries Young Entrepreneurs Network (ICYEN) initiated by the OIC Youth Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation, an affiliated organ of OIC, and call upon Member States to support the activities of the Network.

142- We call for member states' encouragement of intra-tourism programmes especially tourist, cultural and educational programmes and develop standards to achieve that progress along the pattern of economic integration.

Science and Technology:

143- We recognize the crucial role of science and technology in the socio-economic development of the OIC Member States and in addressing the contemporary challenges of development, poverty eradication, environment, climate change, human health, energy and water resources.

144- We welcome the fact that despite many other immediate priorities and recent economic crises, the OIC Member States have on the average been able to move closer to the OIC Ten-Year Program of Action (TYPOA) target of budgetary allocations of 1% for R&D. From 2003 to 2011, national spending on R&D on the average quadrupled from 0.2% to 0.81% of the GDP. In this regard, we express appreciation for the national actions and strategies, bilateral and multilateral cooperation among Member States, ongoing OIC programmes and activities and appreciated the vision and personal interest of the OIC Secretary General.

145- We stress the need for continuing activities and programmes for strengthening of R&D as part of institutional framework for science, technology and innovation, national strategies for science and technology, conducting STI Foresight Studies, encouraging private sector participation in R&D, promoting emerging technologies such as nanotechnology and biotechnology and enhancing of quality education.

146- We recall the decision of the 4th Extraordinary Session, held in Makkah on 14-15 August 2012, to adopt clearly-defined measures to promote scientific and technological development and innovation and higher education. We mandate the COMSTECH Secretariat to study and take necessary measures to propose an Islamic Summit on Science and Technology and its impact on the Islamic Ummah, under the auspices of the Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH). In this regard the COMSTECH Executive Committee will finalize the concept for the Summit in coordination with the Member States.

147- We also welcome the convening of the 19th International Conference of Islamic World Academy of Sciences to be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh on 06-09 May 2013 with a view to forging greater cooperation among the scientists for socio-economic development of Member States.

Higher Education:

148- We laud the increasing interest of the Member States in the 'OIC Educational Programme: Solidarity through Academia in the Muslim World' being pursued by the General Secretariat. Member States are invited to generously support the initiative and actively participate in the Educational Exchange Programme.

149- We call upon all Member States to continue their efforts for quality education that promotes creativity, innovation and research and development, and in this regard promote collaboration, academic interaction and exchange of knowledge between their academic institutions. We invite the Member States and financial institutions to assist in the efforts of the OIC universities - the Islamic University of Technology (IUT), Bangladesh, the Islamic University in Niger (IUN), the Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU) and the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), for the development of quality education, human resources and physical infrastructure, including appropriate facility for female students. We underscore the importance of non-discrimination between members of the native academic staff and those from other Member States in the universities of the OIC.

150- We affirm our support for the efforts of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) to contribute in the establishment of an International Islamic University in Afghanistan as well as to the Bank's efforts to mobilize financial resources for this purpose.

Health:

151- We resolve to accord high priority to the health sector and take steps for the mainstreaming of health issues in national planning. We reaffirm that preserving the wellbeing and physical health of children is the duty of every parent and society as prescribed by Islam. We therefore appeal to the religious scholars and leaders to support the polio eradication campaign and encourage the people to respond positively to it.

152- We endorse the recommendations and decisions of the 3rd Islamic Conference of Health Ministers held in September-October 2011 in Astana, Kazakhstan, and call for the early finalization of the OIC Strategic Health Programme of Action 2013-2022 which will provide a framework for more collaborative efforts and international cooperation for addressing the various health challenges facing the OIC Member States.

153- We urge the OIC General Secretariat to further strengthen its cooperation with the WHO, Global polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, UNICEF, UNFPA and other international partners.

Environment and Climate Change:

154- We underscore the need for robust global cooperation, especially for countries vulnerable to adverse consequences of climate change, including adequate financing and transfer of technology, capacity support from developed to the developing countries, particularly to the least developed and

the most vulnerable countries, under the UN Convention on Climate Change. The provision of finance should be in addition to the existing commitments for official development assistance. With regard to the post-2015 global development architecture, we reiterate that Sustainable Development should be one of the core priorities with a strong implementation framework backed by the requisite resources.

155- We welcome the adoption of the OIC Water Vision by the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Water held in Istanbul in March 2012. We invite the Member States to cooperate for the implementation of the Water Vision including cooperation to ensure access to safe drinking water and sanitation. We also invite the COMSTECH to accord special attention to the promotion of cooperation among OIC Member States in areas such as renewable energy and green technology and effective utilization of the existing expertise in the Member States in such fields.

156- We underline the importance of a transparent and inclusive inter-governmental negotiation process within the UNGA on sustainable development goals and post-2015 development agenda. We call upon member states to undertake consultations so as to make a unified, substantial contribution in these processes. We reiterate that Sustainable Development, in keeping with the outcome of the Rio+20, should be one of the core priorities in the post-2015 development framework with a strong means of implementation backed by the requisite resources.

157- We emphasize the need to actively engage in preparation of EXPO-2017 exhibition in Astana, Kazakhstan, with a view to explore possibilities for the mutual cooperation in area of environment, renewable energy, and transfer of green technologies.

158- We welcome the initiative of Tajikistan adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on designating 2013 as the UN International Year of Water Cooperation and call upon the OIC Member States to effectively participate in the event of this International Year.

Information:

159- We stress that the media bears a significant responsibility towards achieving the goals of Islamic solidarity on the basis of the principles of responsibility. We also acknowledge the crucial role that media can play in brightening the image of Islam and Muslim countries before the outside world. We call on Member States to implement the relevant provisions of previous resolutions.

Administrative and Financial:

160- We urge Member States to settle their financial contributions regularly and pay their arrears in order to enable the Organization to fulfill its mandates and responsibilities entrusted to it by the Council of Foreign Minister and the Islamic Summit Conference, in accordance with Article 34 (4) of the OIC Charter.

Organic and Statutory Matters:

161- We welcome the resolution adopted by the 39th CFM on the opening of two new OIC regional offices, in accordance with the approved plan in that regard.

162- We express gratitude and appreciation to H.E Dr. Mohamed Morsy, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, for hosting the Twelfth Summit with a view to strengthening Islamic solidarity;

and to the Government and people of the Arab Republic of Egypt for their characteristic hospitality and for the constant support provided by Egypt to the Islamic solidarity and Islamic joint action.

163- We express our deep appreciation to the Government and people of the Republic of Senegal for its wise leadership during the chairmanship of the 11th Islamic Summit.

164- We decide to convene the 13th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference in 2016 in the Republic of Turkey at a date to be determined in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat, and welcome the offer by the Republic of Gambia to host the 14th Summit. To this end, we further welcome the kind offer of the Republic of Indonesia to host future session of the Islamic Summit Conference.

165- We express appreciation to His Excellency the Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu since 2005 and to his assistants for their relentless efforts. We commend the staff of the General Secretariat for their praiseworthy efforts and professionalism with which they discharge the tasks assigned to them in record time.

166- We decide to appoint the candidate of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, His Excellency Mr. Iyad Ameen Madani as Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation for 5 years with effect from 1 January 2014, in accordance with the Final Communiqué of the Council of Foreign Ministers held in Kampala, Uganda in 2008, the report of the 39th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers, held in Djibouti, the Djibouti Declaration issued by that Conference, and pursuant to Article 16 of the OIC Charter.

Cairo, 26 Rabiul Awwal 1434H (7 February 2013)

Annex II to the letter dated 11 February 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic, English and French]

Resolution on the Cause of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif
Adopted by the

Twelfth Islamic Summit
Cairo, Republic of Egypt, 6-7 February 2013

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on the Cause of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict (Document No. OIC/SUM-12/SG-REP),

Reaffirming the principles and objectives enshrined in the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC),

Reaffirming also the resolutions adopted by ordinary and extraordinary sessions of the Islamic Summit and by OIC Council of Foreign Ministers on the Cause of Palestine, including the cause of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and the Arab-Israeli Conflict,

Recalling all relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council, particularly resolutions 242 (1967), 252 (1968), 338 (1973), 425 (1978), 465 (1980), 476 (1980), 478 (1980), 681 (1990), 1073 (1996), 1397 (2002), 1435 (2002), and 1515 (2003), as well as General Assembly resolution 194 (1948) on the Palestine refugees and the resolutions of the 10th Emergency Special Session of the General Assembly on illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

Recalling also the landmark Advisory Opinion rendered by the International Court of Justice on 9 July 2004 on the *"Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall on the Occupied Palestinian Territory"* as well as General Assembly resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council regarding Israeli violations of human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and other occupied Arab territories, as well as the resolutions issued by the Non-Aligned Movement, the African Union and the League of Arab States,

Reiterating the decisions of the Executive Committee in its Expanded Extraordinary Meetings of 6 June 2010 on the Israeli aggression against the Freedom Flotilla, of 1 November 2009 on the Israeli aggression against the Al-Aqsa Mosque, of 3 January 2009 on the Israeli aggression against the Gaza Strip, and of 3 February 2008 on the new developments in Palestine,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004 on the Status of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and affirming the need to preserve the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of the entire Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Welcoming the adoption of General Assembly resolution 67/19, on 29 November 2012, granting nonmember observer State status to Palestine at the United Nations, and the overwhelming reaffirmation of the international community's commitment to the two-State solution based on the pre-1967 borders and relevant United Nations resolutions, and *stressing* the significance of this achievement in the just struggle of the Palestinian people to restore their rights and achieve the independence of their State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital,

Condemning Israel's illegal policies and practices and expansionist plans , foremost settlement activities, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the State of Palestine, and reiterating that such policies and practices endanger international peace and security, are denigrating the contiguity of the State of Palestine, are the major obstacle to the resumption of a credible peace process, and threaten the prospects for attaining a peaceful solution to the conflict,

Condemning the November 2012 Israeli military aggression against the Gaza Strip, which caused hundreds of Palestinian civilian casualties, including among children and women, and destruction of civilian property and infrastructure,

Expressing grave concern in specific about the vastly detrimental impact of such illegal colonization practices and measures on the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, including on access to, sanctity of and status of Muslim and Christian holy places and with regard to the displacement of its Palestinian inhabitants,

Condemning also Israel's ongoing illegal blockade of the Gaza Strip, in collective punishment of the Palestinian people, which is obstructing the normal movement of persons and goods, causing humanitarian hardships, deepening poverty, and severely impairing reconstruction and economic recovery,

Deploring the continued imprisonment and detention of thousands of Palestinians by Israel, the occupying Power, and *expressing grave concern* about Israel's physical and psychological mistreatment of Palestinian prisoners and about the critical condition of hunger-striking prisoners,

Hailing the steadfastness of the Palestinian people and their just and valiant struggle to realize their legitimate national aspirations and inalienable rights, including to self-determination and freedom,

1. ***Reaffirms*** the centrality of the cause of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif for the whole Muslim Ummah, and ***emphasizes*** the Arab and Islamic character of Occupied East Jerusalem and the need to defend the sanctity of Islamic and Christian holy places;

2. ***Reiterates*** its strong condemnation of Israel, the occupying power, for its continued aggression against Islamic and Christian holy places in and around Al-Quds Al-Sharif, for its destruction and occupation of Palestinian homes in the City of Al-Quds, particularly in the Silwan and Sheikh Jarrah districts, and for all its illegal colonial practices, settlement and wall construction and other measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including the City of Al-Quds, which are aimed at changing its legal status, demographic composition, Arab and Islamic character and geographic nature, as well as of illegal and provocative excavations underneath the Al-Haram Al-Sharif and Al-Aqsa Mosque;

3. ***Condemns*** Israel's systematic and gross violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people, including violations resulting from use of excessive force and military operations, which have led to the death and injury of Palestinian civilians, including children and women and non-violent, peaceful protesters, the use of collective punishment, confiscation of Palestinian land, construction of settlements and the wall, and the destruction of homes, properties and civilian infrastructure;

4. ***Expresses grave concern*** over the deterioration of social and economic conditions and the worsening humanitarian crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and particularly in the Gaza Strip due to continued Israeli aggression, blockade and other illegal measures against the Palestinian people, and *commits* to work with the international community to pressure Israel, the occupying Power, to end all of its illegal practices and to scrupulously abide by its obligations under international law;

5. ***Welcomes*** the decision by the General Assembly to grant to Palestine nonmember observer State status in the United Nations, and, in this regard, ***reaffirms*** its welcoming of Palestine's membership in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) ;

6. ***Reiterates*** its call on Member States to support the efforts to expand international recognition for the State of Palestine on the basis of the 4th of June 1967 borders. and ***stresses*** that the question of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif is the primary issue on which Member States must adopt a unified stand at the international fora, and ***requests*** OIC institutions to adopt appropriate measures to ensure support to resolutions submitted by the OIC on this issue;

7. ***Reaffirms*** its support for the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and ***expresses its support for*** Palestinian reconciliation and unity, a vital component of the Palestinian people's quest to realize their legitimate national aspirations and rights, and its hope that this will be speedily achieved;

8. ***Reiterates*** the need for Member States, the Islamic Development Bank and private financial institutions to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people in order to alleviate their suffering and to support the continued strengthening of Palestinian State institutions; and ***requests*** international institutions to abide by the agreements of Sharm El-Sheikh Conference on the reconstruction of the Gaza Strip and to expeditiously disburse pledged commitments for reconstruction;

9. ***Calls on*** Member States, in coordination with the State of Palestine, to promptly hold a donor conference no later than April 2013, to finance the Strategic Sector Plan for the Development of the City of Al Quds adopted by the 4th Extraordinary Islamic Summit held in Makkah Al Mukarramah in August 2012;

10. ***Strongly condemns*** the failure of Israel, the occupying Power, to implement the recommendations in the report of the international fact-finding mission established by the UN Human Rights Council following Israel's heinous military attack on the international humanitarian aid convoy in international waters on 31 May 2010, which claimed the lives of 9 innocent civilians and injured scores of others;

11. ***Reiterates its calls on*** the international community to put pressure on Israel to lift this blockade and ensure free movement of goods and persons to and from the Gaza Strip;

12. ***Reiterates its strong condemnation*** of Israel's illegal colonial settlement campaign in all its manifestations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, in which constitutes a flagrant breach of international law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention, and in total disregard of the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) of 9 July 2004 and General Assembly resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004; undermines the contiguity, unity and viability of the State of Palestine; and jeopardizes the prospects for realization of the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders;

13. ***Reaffirms in this regard*** that the Palestinian Territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, constitutes one geopolitical unit, constituting the State of Palestine; and ***demands*** that Israel, the occupying Power, cease forthwith its construction of settlements and the wall that it dismantle them, as demanded by relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and by the ICJ Advisory Opinion of July 2004;

14. ***Strongly condemns*** the violent attacks, harassment and terror being perpetrated by Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians and their properties, including Islamic and Christian places of worship and agricultural lands, with the support and protection of the Israeli occupying forces, and *calls for* the settlers to be held accountable for their crimes;

15. ***Calls on*** the United Nations, in particular the Security Council, to assume its responsibilities in this regard by providing international protection for the Palestinian people;

16. ***Deplores*** Israel's attempts to seize and judaize Palestinian heritage and falsify its history, including the decision to include Al-Ibrahimi Mosque in Al-Khalil and Bilal bin Rabah Mosque in Bethlehem on the Israeli heritage list; and ***calls*** in this regard on UNESCO to act to implement the resolutions adopted by the Executive Council of UNESCO at its 186th session on Palestinian historical and heritage sites and to prevent Israel from the theft and alteration of the Palestinian heritage;

17. ***Condemns*** the continued imprisonment of thousands of Palestinians, including children and women, and members of the Palestinian Legislative Council, in Israeli jails and detention centers in harsh conditions detrimental to their health, including, *inter alia*, solitary confinement, torture, denial of access to proper medical care, denial of family visits and denial of trial in accordance with legal principles, and ***calls*** for the immediate release of all prisoners and for their treatment in accordance with international humanitarian law and international human rights law;

18. ***Condemns*** Israel's withholding of Palestinian tax revenues and demands their immediate release in line with agreements reached and international legal principles, stressing that this is essential for ameliorating the Palestinian financial crisis, and ***calls on*** Member States to provide emergency assistance during this critical period to the Palestinian people and their leadership;

19. ***Calls on*** all High Contracting Parties to the Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949, to continue, in accordance with Article 1 of the Fourth Geneva Convention and as contained in the Advisory Opinion issued by the International Court of

Justice on 9 June 2004, to exert all efforts to ensure that Israel, the occupying Power, abide by the provisions of the Convention in the Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, occupied by Israel since 1967, and *expresses* its support for all initiatives taken by the High Contracting Parties, singularly and collectively, to ensure respect of this Convention;

20. ***Calls on*** the international community, including the Security Council, to act forthwith to compel Israel to implement the relevant resolutions on the cause of Palestine, to respect the agreements signed with the Palestine Liberation Organization and implement fully the Quartet Roadmap with a view to ending the occupation of Palestinian Territory that began in 1967, including East Jerusalem, and thus realizing the two-State solution, based on the relevant United Nations resolutions, the Madrid principles, including the principle of land for peace, and the Arab Peace Initiative;

21. ***Reaffirms*** the permanent responsibility of the United Nations towards the question of Palestine until all of its aspects are justly and satisfactorily resolved;

22. ***Calls on*** the international community to increase efforts to advance the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace based on international law and relevant United Nations resolutions in this regard, including Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 1397 (2002), and 1515 (2003), and the longstanding terms of reference of the peace process, which call for Israel's complete withdrawal from the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and from all other Arab territories occupied since 1967 and the achievement of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including to exercise self-determination and sovereignty in their independent and viable State of Palestine, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital, and for a just solution to the plight of the Palestine refugees that guarantees their right of return in accordance with General Assembly resolution 194 (1948) and the international principles of justice and equity;

23. ***Reaffirms*** the importance of the role and assistance provided by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in ameliorating the plight of the Palestine refugees and helping to provide regional stability, and ***calls upon*** Member States to provide the Agency with generous support in order to cover its budget and enable it to continue to render its essential services;

24. ***Reiterates*** the need for follow-up to ensure that Israeli credentials to the United Nations do not cover any of the territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including East Jerusalem;

25. ***Mandates*** the Secretary-General to follow-up the implementation of the present resolution and report thereon to the next Session of the Islamic Summit Conference.

Annex III to the letter dated 11 February 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic, English and French]

Declaration on the situation in Mali

THE TWELFTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE (SESSION OF NEW CHALLENGES AND EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES) Cairo-ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT (6-7 February 2013)

In the Name of Allah, Most Merciful, Most Compassionate

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), gathered in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 6-7 February 2013, (25-26 Rabi' Al-Awwal 1434H) for the Twelfth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference upon the kind invitation of H.E Dr. Mohamed Morsy, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt,

Having reviewed the recent developments in the Republic of Mali on the basis of the Muslim Ummah's responsibility to demonstrate full solidarity with Mali;

Reiterating our strong commitment to safe-guarding the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Mali;

Committed to the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, particularly with regard to the preservation of the Member States' national unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity;

Reaffirming our previous resolutions on the situation in Mali, notably those adopted by the 4th Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held on 26-27 Ramadan 1433 H (14-15 August 2012) in Makkah Al Moukaramah and of 39th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers held 1-3 Muharram 1434 H (15-17 November 2012) in Djibouti (Republic of Djibouti);

Deeply concerned by the security situation prevailing in the Republic of Mali as well as by the continuing deterioration in the humanitarian situation in the north,

which constitute a serious threat to the peace, security and stability of Mali, the region and beyond;

We firmly condemn the acts of diverse terrorist groups and movements as well as the transnational organized crime and drug trafficking networks which constitute a real threat to the security and stability of Mali and the entire region, aimed at disrupting the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Mali.

We ***reiterate*** our firm condemnation of all the attacks perpetrated by the coalition of armed terrorist and criminal groups against the city of Konna, in Mopti region, on the 10th January 2013. In this regard, we commend the prompt assistance provided by brotherly and friendly governments at the request of the Malian authorities.

We ***reaffirm*** our full solidarity with the people of Mali and its National Unity Government and ***reiterate*** our firm support for the current efforts aimed at recovering the territorial integrity and restoring state authority by the Republic of Mali on its entire national territory. In this regard, ***we take note*** of the adoption of resolution 2085 (2012) by the UN Security Council which sets out a global approach for resolving the ongoing multidimensional crisis in Mali and the current initiatives by the African Union (AU) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

We ***call*** for the accelerated deployment of the International Support Mission in Mali (AFISMA) and invite Member States to provide logistical and financial support to this mission. We call upon member states and credible humanitarian organizations to supply the necessary humanitarian aid in order to relieve the suffering endured by millions of refugees and displaced persons in Mali and the sub-Saharan region. We also extend our gratitude to the countries which have already offered contributions in the wake of the Donors' Conference held in Addis Ababa on 29 January 2013.

We ***commend*** the Transitional National Unity Government for preparing the road map and the National Assembly for adopting it and ***urge*** for its implementation by organizing free, transparent and credible Presidential and Parliamentary elections and the adoption of a comprehensive approach taking into consideration all the dimensions of this crisis. We insist once again on the importance of supporting the development efforts in the Sahel region in general and Mali in particular and invite member states to extend the needed support and assistance to help it achieve its objective.

We strongly ***condemn*** the heinous acts perpetrated by terrorist groups and organizations against the civilian population and *denounce* ***strongly*** all terrorist acts which contravene the values of peace, tolerance and moderation advocated by the noble Islamic religion.

We ***condemn*** the destruction of cultural sites in Timbuktu especially those classified by UNESCO as world cultural heritage and ***call upon*** ISESCO to participate in the protection and preservation of this heritage.

We ***request*** all Member states to immediately provide financial support and assistance for the development of Mali, in a spirit of Islamic solidarity and shared responsibility, including, *inter alia*, through the possibility of establishing a Special Fund on a voluntary basis for that purpose to support economic development in Mali.

We ***request*** the OIC Secretary General to elaborate, in consultation with the Government of Mali, the AU, ECOWAS, and with bilateral and multilateral partners, a strategy for post-conflict reconstruction and assistance to achieve sustainable development in Mali.

We ***decide*** to establish an OIC Contact Group on Mali at the Ministerial level to closely monitor the development of the situation in Mali.